

Laws of Her Majesty's Province of United Canada, passed in the year 1852. Quebec: Stewart Derbyshire and George Desbarts, 1852.

16 Victoria – Chapter 261

An Act to incorporate the *Institut Canadien*. Assented to 14th June, 1853.

Whereas several persons of different classes, ages and professions residing in the City of Montreal and elsewhere, have formed a Literary and Scientific Association in the said City, under the name of the *Institut Canadien* for the purpose of establishing a Library and Reading Room, and of organizing a system of mutual and public instruction by means of lectures and courses of instruction; And whereas the persons hereinafter named, officers of the said Association or members thereof, have by their petition to the Legislature, represented that the said Association was founded originally in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, for the purpose of procuring for its members and of generally extending instruction in the various branches of the sciences, arts and useful knowledge which are necessary and advantageous in the different positions of life; and the petitioners have moreover represented that the number of members composing the said Association already exceeds five hundred, that the said Association is in possession of a Library of two thousand volumes, and a reading Room abundantly provided with newspapers and periodical publications, and that the incorporation of the members of the said Association would insure and increase the advantages which would result therefrom to themselves and to the public, and they have prayed to be so incorporated; And whereas it is expedient to accede to the prayer of the said petitioners, subject nevertheless to the rules and regulations hereinafter mentioned: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and intituled, *An Act to re-unite the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and for the government of Canada*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That Joseph Doutre, C. F. Papineau, L. Ducharme, V. P. W. Dorion, A. Cressé, W. Prevost, A. Tellier, S. Martin, A. A. Dorion, J. G. Barthe, P. Mathieu, J. A. Hawley, R. Laflamme, Joseph Papin, Emery Coderre, J. W. Haldimand, P. R. Lafrenaye, F. Cassidy, Louis Ricard, Eugène L'Ecuyer, C. Loupret, and all such other persons as now are or shall hereafter become members of the said association by virtue of this Act and of the By-laws thereof, shall be and are hereby constituted a Corporation or body politic, for the purposes mentioned in the preamble to this Act, under the name of the *Institut Canadien*, and the said Corporation shall also have the right of acquiring and possessing, for the purposes aforesaid, immovable property of the annual value of Five Hundred Pounds currency, including therein the value of the real property belonging to the said Society, for the uses and purposes thereof, and all moveables and personal effects and property whatsoever, with the power to sell and alienate the said moveable and immovable property, and to purchase others in their stead, and to execute all contracts and to acquire property gratuitously within the limits above prescribed; and all moveable property, books, credits and effects belonging to the said Association at the time of the passing of this Act, shall vest in the said Corporation.

II. And be it enacted, That all the members composing or who shall form part of the said Association, shall be considered as of full age, for the exercise of the rights attached to them in their quality of members of the said Association, provided that no person shall be considered a member of such Corporation unless he be of the full age of seventeen years.

III. And be it enacted, That the Constitution or By-laws of the said Association in force at the time of the passing of this Act, as modified by this Act, shall continue to be the Constitution and By-laws of the said Corporation, until they shall be altered or repealed by the said Corporation who are hereby empowered so to do, and also from time to time, as they shall think proper, to make any other Constitution or By-laws, and the officers of the said Association who shall be in office at the time of the passing of this Act, shall continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices as officers of the said Corporation, until others shall be appointed in their stead in conformity with the said Constitution and By-laws.

IV. And be it enacted, That it shall be the duty of the said Corporation to lay before the Governor, when required, a detailed statement of the real or immoveable property or estate held by virtue of this Act, and of the revenue¹ arising therefrom, and of their receipts and expenditure.

V. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be a Public Act, and the Interpretation Act shall apply thereto.